

was to exchange soil. Mrs. Hanes and I did this May 7, 1955. The top four inches of soil, between sidewalk and the roots of the mulberries, were taken out at two separate spots, each one by two feet in area. Then two bushels of the deeper soil were removed, one bushel of which was taken to our home and the other returned to the place from which it had been dug, only it was topside now. At our home we placed the soil in a plot two feet square and about four inches deep. The plot was well watered before and after the soil had been deposited.

We understood the chance for success in picking up soil with viable seeds was almost nil. Would the seed be present in the small amounts of soil under observation and if there were any, would they still be viable? We were pleasantly surprised for we have on July 12, 1955 in our home plot two vigorous locust seedlings, the one five inches, the other three inches high. The latest leaves of these have nine and seven leaflets respectively.

The home plot was well watered; the one along the hedge on the Soule's property had only the natural rainfall, which was scarce in early June but much more abundant later. At the time this paper was written, July 12, 1955, two small seedlings large enough, however, to show their identity had appeared.

The fact that four locust seedlings have grown in soil from the same location 25 years after the 57 that were discovered in 1930 appears to substantiate the conclusion that these seeds, dormant since the close of the Civil War, came from the trees cut in 1867. Some black locust seeds therefore stay viable for at least 88 years. We cannot say how long before 1867 the trees ceased to bear fruit.—CLARENCE R. HANES, SCHOOLCRAFT, MICHIGAN.

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SILENE VIRGINICA IN THE GULF STATES.—The occurrence of *Silene virginica* L. in north Louisiana was first reported to me by Mr. Roy Morgan, a professional forester working in this area. In addition to his collection from Union Parish, I have collected it along the south side of D'Arbonne Bayou basin in northeast Lincoln Parish.

Hitchcock and Maguire<sup>1</sup> show the species as occurring in extreme northeast Arkansas only, and not in Louisiana or in

<sup>1</sup> HITCHCOCK, C. LEO AND BASSETT MAGUIRE. A revision of the North American species of *Silene*. Univ. Washington Publ. Bot. 13: 1-71. 1947.



the states immediately east of Louisiana. The only previous Louisiana reports are those of Riddell<sup>2</sup> and the statement of Miss Dormon "In rich soil from Georgia to Louisiana."<sup>3</sup> In a recent letter, Miss Dormon stated that she and her sister collected the species "in the vicinity of Shreveport."

The Union and Lincoln parish stations are about 150 airline miles from the nearest reported Arkansas collection. The col-

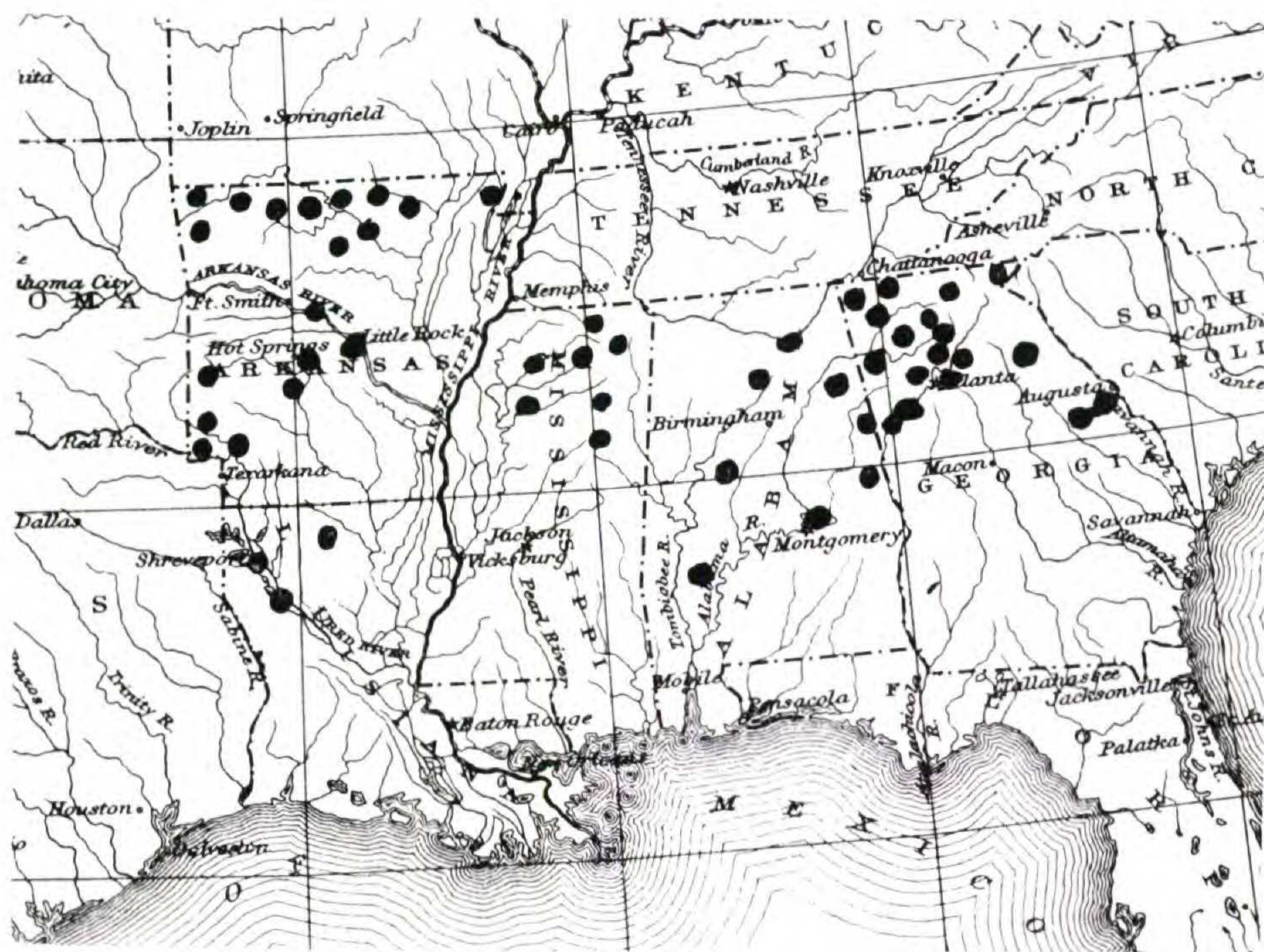


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Silene virginica* L. in the Gulf States.

lection from the Natchitoches area reported by Mr. George Ware of Northwestern State College (Fox, April 13, 1939) is about 135 miles south of the nearest known Arkansas collection, and about 70 miles from the Lincoln parish station. The report of Miss Dormon fills in some of the range gap that was previously apparent.

Further interest in the distribution of the species led to a request to southern botanists<sup>4</sup> for distribution data for the gulf states as shown by their herbaria. The accompanying map is based on the literature cited and on the information furnished by coöperating botanists.

<sup>2</sup> RIDDELL, J. L. *Catalogus florae ludovicianaë*. New Orleans Med. & Surg. Journ. 8: 743-764. 1852.

<sup>3</sup> DORMON, CAROLINE. *Wild Flowers of Louisiana*. New York. 1934.



The county records reported to me are summarized together with their source as follows:

**Arkansas:** Benton, Carroll, Clay, Garland, Hempstead, Little River, Marion, Newton, Polk, Searcy, Washington (Iltis); Fulton, Hot Springs, Independence (Goodman); Sevier, Stone (Tharp); Pope (Shinners); Baxter (Schmitt). **Louisiana:** Lincoln, Union (Moore); Natchitoches (Ware); Caddo (Dormon). **Mississippi:** Lafayette, Lee (Schmitt); Okitbeha (Ray); Grenada, Kemper, Tippah, Union (Lowe).<sup>5</sup> **Alabama:** Lee, Marshall (Davis); Calhoun (Sharp); Randolph, Tuscaloosa (Shinners); Clark, Cullman, Montgomery (Mohr).<sup>6</sup> **Georgia:** Bartow, Burke, Clark, Cobb, Dade, DeKalb, Floyd, Forsythe, Fulton, Gwinnett, Heard, Lumpkin, Rabun, Walker, Whitfield (Duncan); Dawson (Shinners); Meriwether (Tharp).—JOHN ADAM MOORE, DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, LOUISIANA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, RUSTON, LOUISIANA.

<sup>4</sup> Botanists cooperating were: Donald E. Davis, Alabama Polytechnic Institute; Wilbur H. Duncan, The University of Georgia, Miss Caroline Dormon, Saline, La, George J. Goodman, University of Oklahoma, Hugh H. Iltis, University of Arkansas; James D. Ray, Jr., Mississippi State College; John A. Schmitt Jr., University of Mississippi; A. J. Sharp, University of Tennessee; Lloyd H. Shinners, Southern Methodist University; B. C. Tharp, University of Texas; George Ware, Northwestern State College.

<sup>5</sup> LOWE, E. N. Plants of Mississippi. Miss. Geol. Survey Bull. 17. 1921.

<sup>6</sup> MOHR, CHARLES. Plant life of Alabama. Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. 6. 1901.

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